

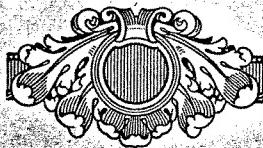
THE REPORT

of the Conference of Representatives from the
Student Bodies of the Canadian Universities
held in Montreal at McGill University

December 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st

1926

to investigate the formation of a
National Federation of Canadian University Students



FOR E W O R D

In preparing this report of the Conference of representatives from the Canadian Universities at which the formation of a National Federation of Canadian University Students was investigated, those responsible desire this opportunity of calling to the attention of the Governing Student Bodies in each of the Canadian Universities one or two matters of important consideration.

While the Conference delegates have expressed themselves in favor of the formation of the National Federation of Canadian University Students and have appointed pro tem officers, the Federation will not become a fact until at least ten Universities have notified the pro tem Secretary-Treasurer of their having become members. This places the responsibility for the actual formation of the Federation in the hands of the Governing Student bodies of the Universities of Canada.

In the event of ten or more of the University Student Bodies becoming members of the N.F.C.U.S., it will be well to remember that the success or failure of the Federation to achieve year by year its purpose will depend upon the constructive support which it receives from each of the Student Bodies and upon the calibre of Canadian students who are chosen to guide its destiny. The Federation can never be a thing above or apart from the students. It is the students in each Canadian University co-operating for their mutual welfare and in the best interests of their common heritage -- Canada.

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REPORTS, FINDINGS AND MINUTES
of a
CONFERENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES
HELD AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL
December 28th to Dec. 31st inclusive

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CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Note - Each university represented at the Conference was entitled to one vote and could have one official delegate together with two other representatives.

OFFICIAL DELEGATES -

University of British Columbia	Mr. J. Oliver
University of Alberta	Mr. E.B. Wilson
University of Saskatchewan	Mr. G.F. Curtis
University of Western Ontario	Mr. W.E. Bagnall
University of Toronto	Mr. J. McCulley
Ontario Agricultural College	Mr. D.A. Andrew
McMaster University	Mr. H. Todd
Queens University	Mr. D.A. Skelton
University of Montreal	Mr. Leo Léesperance
McGill University	Mr. R.G.M. Garmell
Bishops College, Lennoxville	Mr. L.I. Greene
Acadia University	Mr. H.M. Mollins

OTHER REPRESENTATIVES -

University of Toronto	Miss L. Scott
Ontario Agricultural College (MacDonald Hall)	Mr. M.K. Kenny
McMaster University	Miss M. Maunders
McGill University	Miss N. Rogers
	Miss Hodges
	Miss M. MacSporran
	Mr. E.C. Amaron.

Prof. N.A. MacKenzie was present as a guest of the Conference and as an official representative from the Confédération Internationale Des Étudiants.

G.F. Bannerman, Secretary-Treasurer, Students' Administrative Council, University of Toronto, was present as an unofficial guest of the Conference.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INCEPTION
OF THE 1926 CONFERENCE

During the Canadian tour, in the Spring of 1926, of the Imperial Debating Team, Mr. Ralph Nunn May, one of the members of the team met with members of the Student Councils in the various Canadian Universities. As immediate past President of the National Union of Students in England and Wales, he broached the possibility of a similar organization being developed in Canada.

The information given by Mr. May and interest displayed in the Canadian tour of the Imperial Debating Team, raised the question in the minds of the members of a number of the governing student bodies in the Canadian Universities as to the possibility and need of a somewhat similar organization in Canada. Early in February a letter was received by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Students Administrative Council in the University of Toronto from the Secretary of the Student body in the University of British Columbia, asking the opinion of the Students Council in Toronto with regard to forming a National Union of Students in Canada. On February 25th the University of Manitoba Students' Union sent out letters to the various student bodies in Canada asking for their views on the formation of a National Union of Students and stating their favourable attitude towards its formation. On March the first, Mr. Percy Davies, President of the Students' Union in the University of Alberta, wrote to the Students' Council at Toronto and suggested the holding of a Conference of representatives to thoroughly discuss the possibilities of a National Union of Students. By March 23rd the Joint Executive of the Students Councils at Toronto had discussed the value of the proposed organization and had gone on record as being ready to co-operate with any of the other Universities in the sending of a delegate to a Conference to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of such an organization. Letters were sent by the Secretary-Treasurer to all the other Canadian Universities stating the position taken by the Council at Toronto.

Throughout the summer vacation of 1926 Davies in Alberta and Bannerman, Secretary-Treasurer at Toronto, were in communication with each other while letters were received by them from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, McGill and Dalhousie Universities. At first it was suggested that the Conference be held in September prior to the beginning of the College year. As this time approached, however, it was felt by Davies and agreed by others, that a longer time should be given to enable each Student Council to thoroughly discuss the idea of some form of association between the various Canadian Universities. Accordingly, the holding of the Conference was left over until the Christmas vacation.

In October a letter was received from Davies by the Students' Council in Toronto suggesting that the time had arrived for the sending out of an invitation to all the Canadian Universities to send an official representative to a Conference to investigate and to prepare a report and recommendations for the consideration of each University upon the forming of a National organization. He suggested that the Students' Council at Toronto should send out the invitations to this Conference. In the meantime, the Secretary-Treasurer at Toronto, had been to McGill University and had discovered that while neither opposed or in favor of the formation of any organization, they were prepared to have a delegate at the Conference and when it was suggested that the Conference be held at McGill in Montreal they stated that if it was the wish of the other Universities to hold the Conference there, they would be prepared to provide hospitality and entertainment without cost to the delegates.

On returning to Toronto the General Secretary-Treasurer of the Students' Council reported upon his visit to Montreal. The Council considered the letter from Davies and finally authorized the General Secretary-Treasurer to send out invitations together with a suggested agenda for the holding of the Conference in Montreal during the Christmas vacation. While these invitations had been sent out too late for some of the Universities to make arrangements to attend the Conference, the majority replied to the effect that they were sending a delegate to the Conference.

The attitude of each University appeared to be that of willingness to have a careful investigation made into the possibility of a real value being derived from the formation of a National Student Organization. No one University Student Council appeared to be overly enthusiastic about the formation of such an organization, none appeared to be opposed. All appeared to be willing to consider in the best possible light the results of the Conference. With this attitude and in this spirit of investigation the Conference had its inception.

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AGENDA

Conference of Representatives Student
bodies of Canadian Universities
Montreal, December 28, 29, 30 31st.

Tuesday, December 28th.

- 11 a.m. - 12 noon Registration of representatives
 Presentation of credentials
 Election of Conference Chairman and Secretary.
- 2 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. Opening address, Mr. N.A. MacKenzie, Assistant
 Legal Advisor to the International Labor Bureau,
 League of Nations, now professor of International
 Law.

Subject: The History of the National Union
Students Movement; its operation in
England, South Africa, Australia and
on the Continent; the purpose it
serves in these countries.

Note: Professor Mackenzie, a graduate of Dalhousie
University, Harvard Law School and Cambridge,
is well fitted to present the History of these
movements as he has been present at the Nat-
ional Union of Students Conference in England
as well as the conferences of the confedera-
tion International des etudiants.

Discussion and questions will follow this
address by MacKenzie.

4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Discussion on the advantages to Canadian students of
 forming a Federation of Canadian Students.

- (1) Promotion of understanding and exchange of
ideas between eastern, western and central
University sections of Canada.
- (2) Interprovincial scholarships - exchange of
students - possibility of government assistance
for such scholarships.
- (3) Arrangement of debates and athletic events be-
tween Universities- present system if any -
how Federation could improve on or assist
present methods of exchanging teams
in debating and athletics.
- (4) Value of Federation in securing special privi-
leges in reduced railway fares for students
traveling between Universities.

Agenda (Continued - 2)

- (5) Value of Federation as a clearing house of ideas between the various universities on matters of student government, student publications and student activities generally.

Note: These suggested subjects for discussion would also bring out the difficulties which student representatives might see in the formation of a Federation of Canadian students.

TUESDAY, 8 p.m.-9.30p.m.

Summing up of afternoon's discussion. It is suggested that at this session committees be appointed to study on Wednesday and report on Thursday to the Conference their findings on the following phases of a Federation of Canadian Students.

- (1) Scope of a Federation of Canadian Students.
- (2) Financing of the Federation.
- (3) Organization of the Federation - officers machinery -- method of representation, conferences, etc.
- (4) International relations of the Federation, if any. Form that such relations should take.
- (b) Scholarships - interprovincial, international - sending of Canadian Students abroad.

WEDNESDAY -

The Committees under direction of Chairman will study the questions referred to them and prepare a written report.

THURSDAY 10 a.m.- 12 noon

Reports of Committees - discussion - adoption of reports.

2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Discussion as to type and form of Federation of Canadian Students. Appointment of drafting committee with instructions to draft a constitution of the Federation of Canadian Students for presentation in Conference Friday morning.

FRIDAY 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Presentation of draft constitution - appointment of Temporary officers until constitution is ratified by or registered by Canadian University Students Councils.

The Conference of Representatives of the student bodies of Canadian Universities held its first session in the McGill Union on Tuesday, December 28th, at 11 A.M. The Conference was for the purpose of going fully into the advisability of forming a National Federation of Canadian Students, and delegates were present from nearly all the Universities of Canada.

Following the registration of representatives the first session was taken up with the appointment of a Chairman and a secretary for the Conference, Mr. E. R. Wilson of the University of Alberta being elected Chairman and Mr. M. K. Kenny of the University of Toronto, Secretary. Mr. E. C. Amaron on behalf of the student body of McGill University welcomed the delegates, and Mr. G. F. Bannerman announced that all the delegates were invited to a dinner and dance to be given at the McGill Union on Thursday evening.

An agenda had been prepared previously, to which a suggestion brought forward by Mr. Curtis was added. The suggestion was that while dealing with the exchange of scholarships and the transfer of students, the Conference might also approve of an investigation of university curricula to make it clear what courses a student must take at one university to avoid losing a year in case of transfer to another university.

The real work of the Conference was introduced by Mr. N.A. MacKenzie, Assistant Legal Advisor to the International Labor Bureau, League of Nations, now professor of International Law at the University of Toronto. Mr. MacKenzie briefly outlined the history of the National Union of Students' Movement; its operation in England, South Africa and on the continent, and the purpose it serves in these countries. He mentioned the meetings of the National Union of England and Wales, held in London in 1924, the Czech Union at Prague, the Warsaw Conference, and reviewed the work of the Committee of representatives of International student unions called by the League. Mr. MacKenzie emphasized that such a Union must be the work of students and must come from students.

The speaker felt that there were certain fundamental things a Union might do. These he divided into two groups, national and international. One of the greatest defects in Canadian life is the sectionalism, - the country being divided by racial, geographical and economic barriers, which must be overcome if Canada is to realize itself fully. A Union which must be non-sectarian, non-racial, would help to deal with this situation. Owing to its geographical position the international responsibility of Canada is very great, and if a Union could offer some assistance in solving international difficulties, then Mr. MacKenzie believed its existence was warranted. But he emphasized the need of organizing it on a small scale at first.

A few more detailed ideas which might be taken up by such a Union in connection with its international program were reviewed.

There was the International Federation under Prof. Zimmern at Geneva. Its organizer was very keen on Canadian students forming some organization with a view to taking part in international problems and affiliating with the International Federation. The League of Nations needs intelligent co-operation from Universities. A Canadian Union might foster both ideas by having a travelling secretary working in conjunction with the Ottawa League of Nations Society, who might do valuable work in both fields.

In regard to student scholarships, Mr. MacKenzie outlined the suggestion of Mr. Habicht of Switzerland, providing for an exchange of scholarships between the United States and Switzerland. About ten of these exchanges have already been arranged, the Universities involved foregoing their fees, the College societies looking after the students and introducing them to their respective national life. The Government and large industries are also being asked to co-operate by providing work and assistance. Something of this sort might have its benefits if arranged between Canada and European nations. Other detailed work of a Canadian union might involve half fares for students, passport vises, providing entertainment for visiting European students and so on. The chief obstacles to a Canadian organization would be the long distances and the sparseness of the population, which might overbalance the benefits to be derived from its formation.

The Chairman, in commenting on Mr. MacKenzie's address emphasized the need of such an organization to promote closer co-operation and understanding amongst the universities of Canada.

Mr. Oliver felt that the Union in South Africa would have many of the same problems, particularly with respect to distances and sparseness of population, as would occur in Canada, and he asked Mr. MacKenzie for any information he could give about the South African Union. This organization was explained. The South African Union has been admitted to the International Federation, and recently sent about two hundred students to Europe on a tour. The problem of distance and population exists, but they feel that they have an opportunity to help bridge the gap between the new Nationals and the old South Africans, thus promoting union. Their administration was probably in the hands of a wide paper executive and a small centralized working executive.

Mr. MacKenzie did not believe that there was any danger of a conflict in the aims and work of the Student Christian Association and the proposed National Union. Any overlapping that might occur could be settled by defining boundaries. The most important and most practical side of the question, in Mr. MacKenzie's mind, was whether benefits derived would balance the trouble and expense the organization would involve. That was the question to face.

In answer to a question from Mr. Curtis, Mr. MacKenzie explained how the Unions in different countries were financed; in Great Britain by contributions collected by the executives; in Czechoslovakia, largely by government support; the Congress at

Warsaw was very largely financed by the Polish government; in some countries by student contribution, so much per organization. The contributions to the Confederation International Etudiants were on a per capita basis.

The Conference then proceeded to weigh the advantages of a Union to the individual universities, against the difficulty of organization and finance. The problem of distance arose. It was agreed that the week end conference as favoured by the English Union was impossible in Canada. The situation in South Africa seemed most analogous - where the organization consisted of a general executive, meeting once a year and a working executive in a centralized district. However, it was considered that a yearly meeting was neither possible nor essential in Canada where the greater part of the work might be done by correspondence, agenda and investigation.

It was suggested that some form of a Self-help committee might be formed for purchasing medical and scientific instruments at lower cost.

Mr. Bannerman believed that one meeting every four years - an academic generation - might be a good idea, but he was of the opinion that the whole question of time of meeting and organization hinged on practical questions such as reduced railway fares. Mr. Wilson agreed with this statement and further asserted that this one item above, of reduced railway fares for students, would be sufficient to gain for the Union the approval of the University of Alberta.

Following a short recess, the Conference resumed business by discussing the possible advantages to Canadian students of a National Union under certain definite heads as outlined in the agenda. (1) "Promotion of understanding and exchange of ideas between eastern, central and western university sections of Canada". Mr. Mollins, of Acadia University, expressed the opinion of the Maritime Universities. He saw the difficulty in financing, but realized the need for a Union if it did not involve too much expense. He hoped something could be done to further the spirit of good will and co-operation among Canadian students.

Mr. Gammell, of McGill University, was neither enthusiastic for or against a Union. The central university section did not feel the need as much as the other universities because debating and athletic activities were already well organized, but he realized the advantages it might provide for the extreme east or west. Mr. Amaron, of McGill, spoke of his lengthy discussions with the Imperial debaters on the occasion of their visit to Canada a year ago. At that time he had endeavoured to ascertain from them the lasting benefits of a Union, for he considered cheap transportation, cheap instruments, etc. only temporary, and as far as he could judge a Union such as that advocated by the Imperial representatives had no very lasting benefits or motives. There

was racialism in South Africa and India; it might be the same in Canada. Would the Union see problems everywhere in the world and ignore the problem at home, as evidenced by the French culture in Quebec, the Jewish problem and the Japanese problem? Would the Union ignore these matters, declaring them to be outside the province of a student organization or would it endeavour to do something worth while? Would the Union create a consciousness and come to grips with vital things or would it concern itself entirely with cheap text-books and cheap tours which should be mere by-products?

That it was the desire of the University of Toronto to become closer acquainted with French-Canadian students was expressed by Mr. Bannerman, and anything which would further this would be welcomed by Toronto.

Whether a closer union of universities for debating and sport could be consummated was questioned by Mr. Mollins. The Maritime district was isolated, the central and western districts had their own debating and athletic activities; the small colleges would not provide opposition for larger colleges, and the expense would be great.

Mr. Oliver, of the University of British Columbia, described inter-university organization on the Pacific Coast, particularly the Association of Pacific Student Presidents, which met once a year for discussion of problems and was kept in touch with each University by quarterly reports. Mr. Oliver felt that on account of the lack of a Canadian organization, the University of British Columbia was gradually losing contact with Canadian universities, a situation which they were anxious to avoid.

Mr. Bagnall, of Western, thought that a Union might provide for the systematic distribution of college papers to all universities, a state of affairs which he thought did not exist at present. Mr. Bannerman, in enlarging upon this idea, offered the suggestion that the first thing which might be presented to a Union, if formed, would be the advisability of organizing an All-Canadian Collegiate Press Association.

Just in passing, Mr. Amaron remarked that something might be done to see that central section athletic winners refrained from calling themselves Intercollegiate champions of Canada, when they were really not so. It might be more becoming if they voluntarily desisted from continuing the practice before they were asked to do so.

The Conference then passed to an examination of the second topic on the agenda. (2) "Interprovincial scholarships - exchange of students - possibility of government assistance for such scholarships". There was some discussion on the suggestion from Saskatchewan concerning greater knowledge of University curricula. Western students wishing to pursue courses elsewhere found their qualifications deficient on account of lack of knowledge of the

requirements. The delegates thought that there should be available more information about courses for outside students. Mr. Bannerman spoke of the advantages to be gained by men from one province studying in another province; particularly in French Canadian universities, and the value of such a practice in promoting a greater appreciation of other points of view. Government aid for scholarships would have to be a private matter between the various universities and governments. The exchange system would provide that a student would put in one year at one university and then transfer to another. A National Union could give great assistance to such a student by advising him of suitable courses and of the best places to go.

In regard to the next topic, (3) "Arrangements of debates and athletic events between universities, how Federation could improve on or assist present methods of exchanging teams in debates and athletics", it was deemed possible that nationally inter-collegiate sport might be possible, particularly between the central and maritime sections. The question of inter-sectional debating was discussed, with the possibility of a western team visiting the east, the finances to be guaranteed by the east, and vice versa.

Mr. Skelton, of Queen's, enlarged on the possibility of universities becoming specialized in certain departments, following the development of the idea of exchanging scholarships, he considered this a logical and satisfactory progression.

The Conference did not feel that there was much use going to the government with an idea such as outlined in topic (4) "Value of Federation in securing special privileges in reduced railway fares for students travelling between universities", unless backed by the whole student body of Canada. A successful effort would need a very strong organization, and a national union would undoubtedly obtain a more favourable hearing than otherwise possible. It was felt by many that the whole problem confronting a proposed union hinged on the possibility of cutting down the cost of transportation. Mr. Mollins was inclined to believe that the problem was greatly increased by sectionalism, for in each section activities are already very intense, and there might not be time and opportunity for the larger field; moreover, the sections might not wish to give up their sectional activities for national ones. Mr. Amaron offered the suggestion that possibly more benefit was derived from extra-collegiate competition than from regularly scheduled events; - they provided a better change of ideas and so on. On the contrary Mr. Oliver reported that the University of British Columbia found their greatest stimulus in Intercollegiate sport probably because they were more accustomed to engage in friendly games.

Mr. Greene, of Bishop's College, had gained the impression from the discussion, that the majority of the student bodies represented by the delegates were neither for nor against the proposal. Certain things stood out prominently in his mind, from

the discussion. It seemed that the ideas to be exchanged were mainly between the extreme east and west, which also involved the greatest financial problems, for the centre was influenced by ideas from both the maritimes and the west. Debating might foster the interchange of ideas but it should be east versus west, and there finances would arise again. Consequently it was Mr. Greene's opinion that the Conference should first get financial matters straightened out and then weigh them against the advantages of a National Union.

"Are students really interested in this", questioned Mr. Amaron. At McGill there did not seem to be much interest. There was the danger of erecting a superstructure on no foundation, whatever. There was a great opportunity right at hand between McGill and University of Montreal for closer relationship but the students took no interest in it. He did not see how more distant problems would interest them. Mr. Amaron also offered the practical suggestion of a Canadian National Student Employment Bureau.

Most of the points in regard to topic (5) "Value of Federation as a clearing house of ideas between the various universities on matters of student government, student publications, and student activities generally", had already been uncovered in the discussion, and the delegates agreed that a conference such as the present one was very valuable for inter-changing ideas.

At the evening session the delegates appointed the following committees to work on certain definite subjects:-

- (1) Scope of a Federation - Mr. Gammell, Convenor; Miss Rogers, Mr. L'Esperance, Mr. G.F. Bannerman.
- (2) Finance - Mr. Mollins, Convenor; Miss Maunders, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Andrew.
- (3) Organization - Mr. Curtis, Convenor; Miss Hodges, Mr. Lesage, Mr. Greene.
- (4) International relations - Mr. Oliver, Convenor; Miss MacSporran, Mr. McCully, Mr. Gravel.
- (5) Scholarships - Mr. Skelton, Convenor; Miss Scott, Mr. Bagnall Mr. Todd.

The Conference then adjourned for committee work.

The whole of Wednesday was given over to committee work, so that when Conference resumed on Thursday morning reports were prepared embodying definite concrete ideas for the attention of the delegates. The report of the committee on the Scope of a Federation of Canadian Students was presented by Mr. Bannerman. (see reports).

Mr. Bannerman spoke briefly enlarging upon the report and then the report was adopted as presented.

The report of the Committee on Finance was read, by Mr. Mollins, but discussion was deferred until the Committee on

Organization had presented its report, the two being somewhat correlated. This report was presented by Mr. Curtis. (See reports).

It was noticed that the report made no provision for graduate or post graduate membership in the Federation and the Chairman mentioned the danger of men actively interested in the Federation now losing touch completely upon graduation. It was pointed out, however, that in the case of graduate members paying the fees, and being active members of Student Councils of Constituent Universities they would be members of the Federation. It was the concensus of opinion that each constituent organization should determine its own affairs in this respect.

Mr. Mollins raised the point of preserving the continuity of the Federation. The members of the executive council would probably be fourth year students and so graduating. How would interest be maintained with this situation existing. The committee felt that interest must come from below, from the student bodies of constituent universities, and not from any superstructure of organization.

It was the opinion of Mr. McCulley of Toronto, that ordinary undergraduates could not provide continuity. He was not in favor of over-organizing, but if there was sufficient feeling in favor of a Federation, it at least merited a fair trial. Therefore, some person willing to act as executive secretary-treasurer, in full or part-time was necessary. Only in this way would the Federation be able to carry out the investigations outlined in the reports. He would be a pivot for this work, and for putting into effect the decisions of the executive. There would also be needed someone to do the necessary stenographic work.

Some delegates felt that for the first two or three years of its existence, until the Federation really found its scope, it should not have a paid secretary. Such official could be appointed later if warranted, but at present it might mean disaster financially. The other view, that the lack of such a person, to provide continuity and enthusiasm, would also mean disaster was also favoured.

A clause providing that a decision of the Federation should be binding on its constituent Universities without their ratification evoked great discussion and was finally dropped. Mr. Gammell considered that this might lead to trouble, as did Mr. McCulley, who pointed out that a Federation was co-operative rather than legislative. It was not the intention of a Federation to attempt to interfere with University autonomy. There was also some discussion but no decision on the attitude of the Federation toward a constituent university which was unwilling to adopt the ideas of the Union; should it be obliged to do so, or should it withdraw.

It was agreed that the Federation would not be concerned with financing inter-sectional debates, tours, etc. It should

promote and arrange them but the expenses should be borne by the universities involved.

As the original Report of the Organization Committee did not provide for a permanent secretary-treasurer, which seemed desirable, and as the original Report of the Finance Committee did not provide for funds necessary to finance such an official, it was moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Gammell, that the reports be referred back to the two committees sitting in conjunction and that further discussion be postponed until they report again. Carried. The Committees were instructed to consider two proposals (1) Part-time secretary with remuneration and with stenographic assistance (2) Undergraduate secretary without salary, but with stenographic assistance.

The delegates were unanimous in their desire to have a Federation entirely self-supporting and not dependent on subscription. It would have more power, more interest, and would be more in a position to represent student opinion.

The report of the Committee on International Relations was presented by Mr. Oliver. (See reports)

General opinions in favor of international affiliations were given. The C.I.E. was not as political in its nature as formerly and was becoming less so all the time. Affiliation would make travelling for students in Europe, much cheaper than otherwise, and it would have other advantages such as information for students studying in Europe. It was agreed that a big thing in a Student Federation would be the contacts which could be obtained only by affiliation. The report was adopted.

The Report of the Committee on Scholarships was presented by Mr. Skelton. (See reports)

The delegates realized that this report would have to be gone over with the various university faculties and Boards of Governors, and any recommendations would, of course, be subject to their action. The Federation could recommend to the universities this system of Scholarships as an end toward which it could work, but which must finally be decided by the constituent universities. Of course it could not be attained immediately. The Chairman felt that the delegates on their return should interview their respective faculties and report on the feeling there. Mr. Bannerman suggested that proposals in this regard might be made to the University President's biennial meetings. This report was accepted in principle, but action on it was deferred until the election of the executive pro tem, who should determine the procedure to be adopted by the individual universities concerned.

In the afternoon the revised report of the Committee on Organization was presented by Mr. Curtis, and adopted, and the second report of the Finance Committee presented by Mr. Mollins and adopted. It was pointed out that at the present time by

this system of finance the per capita charge would be not more than $6\frac{1}{2}\%$, and even with a full time secretary in the future would never reach more than 10¢ per capita. Then too, with the inclusion of more universities in the Federation the per capita charge would be proportionately smaller. The conference emphasized the fact that they were very open to suggestion in regard to finance. The proposed plan was the best reached by the delegates but better ones might possibly be evolved. The Secretary-Treasurer should either be an undergraduate or a man taking part-time university work, who would be able to give considerable time to it. Further, the officers should hold office from conference to conference to provide continuity. These officers would be appointed pro tem by the conference, their duties would begin when ratified by ten universities, as provided in the report of the Organization Committee. It was decided that any further subscriptions toward the funds of the present conference should be left in the hands of the secretary-treasurer to meet secretarial expenses during the coming year.

It was brought to the attention of the conference by Mr. Greene that so far the delegates had not considered whether they were definitely in favour of or against such a Federation as proposed. Consequently, it was moved by Mr. Oliver, seconded by Miss MacSporran, that the Conference recommend to student governing bodies of the universities of Canada the formation of a National Federation of Canadian University Students. The motion carried unanimously.

Following this a committee was appointed to draft a tentative constitution.

Conference then adjourned.

The final session of the Conference was held Friday morning. A letter was received from The Confederation Internationale Etudiants appointing Professor MacKenzie its representative at the Conference. His name was thereupon inscribed upon the roll of official delegates.

The Committee which had been appointed the preceding day to draft a Constitution brought in its report. The report brought considerable discussion and amendments and was finally adopted as follows: (See Constitution) Then the Conference proceeded with the election of officers pro tem for the Federation, the following being elected: President, Mr. L.I. Greene, Bishop's College; Vice-President, Mr. LeSage, University of Montreal; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Percy Davies, University of Alberta. Both Mr. Greene and Mr. LeSage addressed the Conference briefly.

It was suggested by Mr. McCulley that to let the country see that there was interest in this Federation, the pro tem Executive should consider publishing immediately a collection of University activities for distribution. This idea was embodied in a motion that the Executive of the Federation be instructed to prepare quarterly a bulletin of activities of Canadian University students to be distributed to all the Universities. Carried.

Mr. Bannerman was asked to compile a condensed report of the Conference for the newspapers throughout the Dominion.

Following a sincere vote of thanks to the hosts, the officers of the Conference, Mr. Bannerman, and any others who helped, the Conference finally adjourned.

M. K. KENNY,

Secretary.

COMMITTEE I.

Purpose - To investigate and report upon the scope which a Federation of Canadian Students should attempt to cover.

Committee

Chairman - Mr. R. G. M. Gammell
Miss M. Rogers
M. L. L'Esperance
Mr. G. F. Bannerman

- REPORT -

Mr. Chairman:

In attempting to define the scope of the work of a Federation of Canadian Students your committee has seen fit to first analyse the basis and reasons upon which the work of such a Federation would find its purpose. In this the committee gives some attention to the suggested general and particular aims of a Federation, with an outline of the various ways in which it feels the general and particular aims can be accomplished in full.

After giving consideration to the thoughts and ideas expressed at the general session of the conference, your committee raised the question as to what need a well functioning Federation of Canadian Students could fill, what general purpose could it have entitling it to creation? It is felt by the committee that by facing the facts which face the building up of a common Canadian national life that certain general aims become apparent. Any organization representative of all sections of Canada must work towards a greater understanding between these sections, and the uniting of Canadian thought into a national consciousness, if it is to be a truly representative organization. To accomplish this it must overcome the obstacles of geographical, economic and social conditions.

While realizing the underlying importance of general aims in keeping with the development of Canadian unity, your committee realizes that such aims are very broad and applicable to any national organization real in fact. It is the particular aims of a Federation that the committee feels the conference has especially to deal with. Aims, which while following the broad outline of the general aims, have to do with the university situation as between the various sections of Canada.

The situation of the university student bodies of Canada to-day is such that they tend to follow the geographical and economic divisions in Canada. On the Pacific coast the University of British Columbia, cut off to some degree by the mountain range, has but slight contact with the nearest Canadian University, the University of Alberta. East of Edmonton the student body of the University of British Columbia has little or no contact with the

other university student bodies. Alberta and Saskatchewan student bodies enjoy a very close relationship between each other but little or none with universities in central and Eastern Canada. The University of Manitoba has some little contact with Saskatchewan but practically none in the central and eastern sections. The University of Western Ontario, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Toronto, Queen's, McGill, University of Montreal and Bishop's College have some contact and relations with each other in debating and athletic events, but little or none with Western Canada or Eastern Canada. In the east the University of New Brunswick, St. Francis Xavier, St. Johns, Acadia, Mount Allison and Dalhousie have a measure of inter-university relationships but little or none with central and western Canada. There is apparently only one form of contact between the main sections into which the universities fall. That is the more or less general exchange of student newspapers. Here again, however, these papers find their way into the editorial rooms of each paper and little or no news appears in the local university paper concerning the other universities outside its particular division.

If it is accepted by the conference as a worthy aim to promote a greater measure of Canadian unity, these facts in themselves would warrant the recommendation of a particular aim of the Federation to provide more contacts between the student bodies situated in the different sections of Canada. There exists, however, a situation in university student relations which bears very directly on this suggested aim. That is the tendency of Canadian universities feeling themselves isolated to very naturally seek association or affiliation with associations of student bodies in the universities of the United States. Your committee feels that in itself this contact between university student bodies in the United States and in Canada is good. But it would bring to your attention the present facts. In the University of British Columbia the student body is associated with the Pacific coast groups of universities in the United States. One Canadian university in the midst of some thirty of the United States. Again Manitoba appears to be seeking or developing a closer relationship with the universities to the south. The University of Toronto student body and that of McGill, although at present not affiliated with any student government organization, do form contacts through debating and athletics. After surveying this tendency to find the line of association and contact between student bodies of Canadian universities running north and south instead of east and west, your committee are of the opinion that one of two alternatives will become crystallized within the next few years. Either this tendency to find association with student bodies in universities in the United States south of Canadian universities will continue and develop into a closer relationship with the United States student bodies and lead to even a lessening of the now little contact between eastern, central and western Canada; either this will become a reality or an all Canadian organization will be formed with the task and particular aims of ensuring the development of stronger ties and much more frequent contact between each of the Canadian university student bodies.

Your committee recognizes that the important factor in making an aim a reality is the method or methods employed. It realizes that any national organization formed to give effect to such an aim cannot hope to immediately put to use all the available methods nor can it hope to overcome all the obstacles confronting it at one time. It can, however, grow stronger as it finds one method developing into another and each obstacle as it arises being overcome. It is with this in mind that your committee has made a survey of possible methods.

An answer to the question of what are the more likely forms of contact possible to develop between universities is found in the field of debating, exhibition athletic tours, exchange of views on student government and exchange of news in the university newspapers. The committee has reached the conclusion that exhibition athletic events can promote a form of contact which is in keeping with the suggested aims of a Federation in a manner not to be found in fixed competitive schedules. The exchange of students between universities, which is dealt with by the committee on scholarships, the promotion of tours of students across Canada so arranged that they can be met by and entertained by students at the universities along their route, the encouraging of individual students to see Canada before going abroad, all make for greater contact between the various student bodies. In this connection it is interesting to note that for two or three years the University of Montreal has sent a tour of French Canadian students across Canada. A federation could have made such tours productive of closer contact by arranging with each university on the route of the tour, to look after their entertainment. The encouragement of having representatives from all the universities make up a party for European tours would also tend to strengthen the contact and the mutual understanding of the problems met with in the various university centres.

Your committee also recognizes that one of the great barriers to closer contact and better understanding between Canadian universities is due to the great distances and resultant cost of transportation. It appears to them that a Federation should endeavour to secure special consideration as to transportation costs and that the obtaining of such consideration would greatly facilitate the realizing of the suggested aims. The committee does not feel that such special consideration can be considered on any other basis than in the national interest of Canada.

Having made this survey of matters under its consideration your committee wishes to make the following recommendations as to the scope and purpose of a Federation.

General aims. To overcome racial and economic barriers existing in the Dominion of Canada, with a view to developing a greater national unity.

Particular aims. To promote a better understanding between the various Canadian universities, a greater exchange of ideas and problems which differ for the universities in each of the different sections of Canada.

- Methods:
1. By arranging and promoting debating teams between the eastern, central and western sections of Canada.
 2. The promotion of exhibition tours of athletic teams between the various sections of Canada.
 3. To investigate the possibilities and feasibility of promoting a Canadian Universities Newspaper Assoc.
 4. To collect and arrange information concerning the manner in which each university meets its problems in student administration. This would form the basis for a clearing house of information in student activities.
 5. To investigate and make representations to the Governments and the Board of Railway commissioners for special consideration in transportation tariffs - such as reduced fares for student organizations or student representatives travelling between universities in Canada or student business, exhibition games and debates.
 6. To investigate the present rates as they affect students in the various universities who attend them from districts outside the university area. To make representations for a special seven or eight-month return fare for such students. To study the commercial travellers system and endeavour to secure a somewhat similar arrangement.
 7. To encourage and arrange for tours of students from Canadian universities to cross Canada during vacations.
 8. To investigate the existing systems of student tours to Europe, to recommend improvements and if necessary after a few years take over the promotion of such tours.
 9. To investigate any methods of co-operative purchasing of student supplies in the various universities and to prepare a report for the information of each of the universities.
 10. To investigate the comparative basis of the curricula of the various universities and prepare a report for each university for use of students moving from one university to another. Also where necessary to press for changes which will be of general assistance to students.

This, Mr. Chairman, concludes the report and recommendations of your committee. Matters within the scope of a Federation not considered by this committee are international in character and will be dealt with by another committee.

COMMITTEE II.

Purpose - To report upon a method of Financing the Federation.

Committee -

Chairman - Mr. H.W. Mollins
Miss Mauder
Mr. E. B. Wilson
Mr. Andrew.

- REPORT -

We beg to submit this report:-

Whereas we recognize the necessity of maintaining the permanent office of a secretary-treasurer, we recommend that this office be filled, and that the Executive Committee of the Confederation be authorized to pay the said secretary-treasurer an honorarium which they deem sufficient for the work involved.

We furthermore recommend that the office expense connected with the work of the Secretary-treasurer be provided for in the annual budget of the Conference.

On the basis of the present Conference we anticipate that the budget for the coming year will approximate twelve hundred dollars (\$1200).

We recommend that the method of meeting this budget be as follows:-

1. That each University, regardless of size, be assessed an affiliation fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), this affiliation fee to provide for the exemption of 100 students of each individual university from any per capita charge.

2. That the balance necessary to complete the budget be raised by a per capita assessment on all students paying student fees, exceeding the number of one hundred.

This budget provides for the meeting of an annual conference of not less than ten colleges or universities.

COMMITTEE III.

Purpose - To submit a plan of organization required in the formation of a Federation of Canadian Students - officers - machinery - method of representation, etc.

Committee -

Chairman - Mr. G.F. Curtis
Miss Hodges
Mr. L.I. Greene
Mr. M.J. Lesage

- REPORT -

Mr. Chairman.

Your Committee on Organization begs to report as follows:

Your Committee met and discussed the question as fully as was possible. It is perhaps well to state in a few words the general or fundamental principles that ought, in the Committee's opinion, govern plans for organization of a National Federation of Canadian Students.

The Committee hold the view that simplicity in matters of organization should be a cardinal principle. They hold that for a start the simplest machinery would be the best, otherwise, the Committee felt, a superstructure would be built up with possibly little foundation by way of active student support. The Committee feels that the organization can always be elaborated upon as the need arises.

Another thing that should, in the opinion of the Committee, be kept in mind is that there should be a maximum of correspondence with a minimum of meetings. Financial consideration obviously impels this view.

The members of your Committee hold the view that this organization should be styled the "National Federation of Canadian University Students". Your Committee feels that this would be more apt for Canadian purposes than would be the English appellation of "National Union".

In the matter of membership your Committee recommends that membership be open to the representative student organizations of the Universities in the Dominion of Canada and also that in special cases, subject to the decision of the Executive Council to representative student organizations within Universities and University Colleges not affiliated as a whole. Your Committee, also, would advise a clause to this effect, - "Every active member of the student bodies of the various Universities is ipso facto a member of the Federation".

Your Committee suggests that no individual honorary, or life memberships be established, nor would it recommend the appointment of honorary officers.

In matters of administration the Committee recommends that the administration of the Federation shall be in the hands of an Executive Council appointed annually by the constituent organization, consisting of one official representative from each University. This, the Committee feels, will be a sufficient executive body. A President, Vice-President and a permanent Secretary-Treasurer should in the opinion of your Committee be appointed, the last named official being given an honorarium by the Executive Council in consideration of work done. To secure a greater continuity the Committee believes that it would be well to provide that these officers shall hold office until Christmas of each year.

To carry on the work of investigation and supervision of the activities suggested by the first Committee, this Committee recommends that Standing Committees be set up as and when necessary by the Executive Council, to which Committee may be delegated such powers as the Executive Council shall deem necessary.

The question of finance is being dealt with by another Committee and this Committee was privileged to sit with them and discuss matters of common concern. As an outcome, this Committee feels that it is necessary for the success of the Federation that an annual meeting of the Executive Council shall be held, preferably during the Christmas Vacation. A further suggestion is that the quorum of the Executive Council shall be one representative of two-thirds of the total number of constituent organizations. Furthermore, we think that thirty days' written notice of all meetings shall be given by the Secretary-Treasurer.

This Committee, also, is of the opinion that the proposed Federation should not be formed unless and until at least ten Universities have signified their intention of entering.

Furthermore, your Committee feels that it is of the utmost importance that the Universities not represented at the present Conference be sent invitations to consider the advisability of forming a Federation with all the data possible. And, in addition, this Committee feels that it would be more efficacious if this invitation is extended in person.

COMMITTEE IV.

Purpose, - To report upon the extent of international relations to which a Federation of Canadian Students might be committed. What form such relations should take.

Committee,-

Chairman - Mr. J. Oliver
Miss M. MacSporran
Mr. J. McCully
Mr. M.R. Gravel (absent)

- REPORT -

Your Committee has been forced to recognize that our first object as a National Union of Students will be to develop in every way possible, a Canadian national consciousness among our own students. Secondly, that probably our closest relations will be with those English and French-speaking countries to whom we are allied by culture and tradition. In view of the fact, however, that these relations can be maintained within the Confederation Internationale des Etudiants, there is no need of creating a new organization to meet this end.

Your Committee, then, recommends that the National Union of Students of Canada, express its desire to affiliate with the C.I.E., and that this action be the only official expression of our international relations.

In the event of our affiliation, we would assume certain obligations which fall under two heads:- financial and general. Our yearly fee, computed on the basis of the fee of the N.U.S. of England and Wales, would be about \$80. - \$100. and, in addition, we would be required to send a delegate to the annual conference of the C.I.E. By appointing such representatives from Canadian students already in England, the financial obligation would be very small, probably about \$50.

In addition to this, we would be expected to make arrangements for groups of students coming to this country, to supply the central office in Brussels with information regarding our Universities, such as living conditions, curricula and similar subjects, and in such other ways to co-operate as is customary among members of the C.I.E.

In arriving at its decision, your Committee considered the following points, wherein we could gain an advantage from our affiliation:

In the first place, co-operation with international movements, in view of increasing international communication since the war, is essential to students. Contact with strongly national

groups would create an increasing consciousness of a national identity among Canadian students. Also there are several minor, practical advantages to be gained such as increased travelling facilities, due to cheaper rates. At first these might conveniently be arranged between the N.S.F.A. and our organization, and later between the further removed national unions and ourselves. Again, the exchange of students between countries could be managed through the C.I.E. bureau and the policy of some Canadian Universities in exchange of staff could be followed in the exchange of students.

The one disadvantage is the danger of our becoming involved in European political and national group dissensions, but in view of our geographical position and lack of any tendency to think in these terms it is felt that our point of view may become increasingly helpful in reducing these dissensions to a minimum.

In conclusion, we wish to point out that our future co-operation with American and English Universities will be on the basis of national organizations, that is, with the National Student Federation of America and the National Union of Students of England and Wales. Also, your Committee recommends that we favour co-operation with any bodies working in international interests but definitely disapprove of any affiliation with bodies working for purely sectional purposes. In this connection, we regard the Institute of Pacific Relations as a body interested in international harmony, although considering a particular and local problem, while the Pan-American we consider to be sectional in its aim. Our fullest co-operation would, of course, be given to all bodies concerned in furthering the aim and ideals of the League of Nations.

COMMITTEE V.

Purpose - To report on Scholarships - interprovincial, international - exchange of students.

Committee -

Chairman - Mr. D.A. Skelton
Miss L. Scott
Mr. W.E. Bognall
Mr. H. Todd.

- REPORT -

While this field seems the most practical to achieve the ends in view of the C.N.U.S. it is also in many ways the most difficult. There appear to be two broad divisions the problem naturally falls into:

- (1) The exchange of undergraduate students.
- (2) The granting of scholarships to graduates.

The Exchange of Undergraduates

With regard to this the Committee make the following suggestions:

A first essential is that at the Head Quarters of the C.N.U.S. full information be available as to the subjects and prerequisites in each course and year of the various universities. Included in this information might be suggestions from each university as to its outstanding courses.

It is suggested:

That the Executive of the Students' Council in each university, together with a small representative committee of the Faculty, shall nominate 1% of the total enrollment from students at the end of their second year to spend their third year at another university of their own choice, this choice to be subject to the approval of the executive of the C.N.U.S.

That to facilitate the work of the executive that students who wish to spend their third year at another university send in applications to their executive, suggesting the university to which they wish to be transferred.

That the students who are transferred from the larger universities be chiefly students in Arts, and those transferred from the smaller universities be mainly in Science and Medicine courses.

That arrangements be made with each university to remit the fees of exchange students.

If the C.N.U.S. is successful in securing materially cheaper students' railway fare rates the problem of transportation connected with this exchange is greatly lessened. Otherwise some measure must be taken by the C.N.U.S. to make up the difference

between the railway fare to the students' former university and to that to which he has been transferred.

It is the opinion of the Committee that these measures will encourage a large scale exchange of students which will greatly further the ends of the C.N.U.S. in bringing the extremes of Canada together and greatly broadening many individual outlooks, and yet much more economically than possible under any scholarship system.

International Scholarships.

When we approach the question of international scholarships for graduates we are confronted by several problems: On what scholastic basis and on what geographical basis to award scholarships, the method to grant them, and, incidentally, the means to grant them.

The Committee make the following suggestions:

That in time it might be possible

(1) That ten annual scholarships, of a value of \$1500.00 each, for a year's post graduate work at some university approved by the C.N.U.S. Executive, be granted on the following geographical basis:

Ontario	- 3
Quebec	- 2
Prairie Provinces	- 2
Maritimes	- 2
B.C.	- 1

(2) That the raising of this sum be directed by the C.N.U.S. executive along the following lines:

1. Grants from universities.
2. Aid from the government.
3. Private and public subscriptions.
4. Exemption from fees.

(3) Feeling that the Rhodes Scholarship fills a certain need we suggest that these scholarships be granted for scholastic attainments alone.

(4) Application should be made in the final year before a set date to the Registrar, stating at the time the university to which entrance is desired. The most suitable candidate from each university be selected by a Committee consisting of the Principal and Faculty Deans, the Registrar and the head of the student body. The final selection be made by the Executive of the C.N.U.S. together with an advisory board of prominent men selected by them.

While realizing the many defects in this report, we submit it merely as something definite and tangible hoping it will arouse discussion which will lead to a more practical conclusion within the scope of the suggested federation.

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
STUDENT BODIES OF CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES,
AT MONTREAL.

Tuesday, Dec. 28th

Morning Session

The opening session of the Conference was held in the McGill Union on Tuesday, December 28th, at 11 A.M. The credentials of the following delegates were presented:

Mr. J. Oliver	University of British Columbia
Mr. E. B. Wilson	University of Alberta
Mr. G. F. Curtis	University of Saskatchewan
Mr. Bagnall	University of Western Ontario
Miss L. Scott	University of Toronto
Mr. M. K. Kenny	" " "
Mr. J. McCulley	" " "
Mr. Andrew	Ontario Agricultural College
Miss Mauder	" " "
Miss Rogers	" " "
Mr. H. Todd	McMaster University
Miss Hodges	" " "
Mr. D. A. Skelton	Queen's University
M. L'Esperance	University of Montreal
M. Le Sage	" " "
M. Gravel	" " "
Mr. R.G.M. Gammell	McGill University
Miss M. MacSporran	" " "
Mr. L. I. Greene	Bishop's College, Lennoxville
Mr. H. M. Mollins	Acadia University

Mr. E. B. Wilson was appointed Chairman for the Conference, and Mr. M. K. Kenny, Secretary.

On behalf of the student governing bodies of McGill University, Mr. E. Amaron extended a cordial welcome to the delegates.

Mr. Bannerman explained how the Conference was being financed and asked that expense accounts be handed in as soon as possible. He further invited the delegates to a dinner and dance given by McGill on Thursday evening.

The following suggestion as an addition to the agenda was made by Mr. Curtis, - That an investigation of the various university curricula be undertaken with a view to ascertaining how a student might transfer from one University to another without losing a year.

The Conference then adjourned to meet again at 2 P.M.

Afternoon Session

At 2.30 the Conference was resumed. Mr. N.A. MacKenzie, Assistant Legal Advisor to the International Labour Bureau, League of Nations, Professor of International Law at the University of Toronto, was introduced by Mr. Bannerman, and addressed the Conference on the History of the National Union of Students Movement; its operation in England, South Africa and on the Continent; the purpose it serves in these countries.

This address was followed by discussion and questions; and the Conference adjourned for a half-hour.

Upon resuming at 4.15 the Conference discussed the possible advantage to Canadian students of forming a Federation of Students, and also its problems, under the following heads:-

- (1) Promotion of understanding and exchange of ideas between eastern, western and central university sections of Canada.
- (2) Interprovincial scholarships, - exchange of students, - possibility of government assistance for such scholarships - a greater knowledge of curriculum requirements.
- (3) Arrangement of debates and athletic events between Universities - How a Federation could improve on or assist present methods of exchanging teams in debating and athletics.
- (4) Value of Federation in securing special privileges in reduced railway fares for students travelling between Universities.
- (5) Value of Federation as a clearing house of ideas between the various universities on matters of student government, student publications and student activities generally.

From this discussion the Conference obtained a fairly comprehensive idea of the ideas and problems of the various Universities.

The meeting then adjourned.

Night Session

At 8 P.M. the delegates met to appoint committees to deal with certain definite subjects.

It was moved by Mr. L. I. Greene, seconded by Mr. Andrew, that the names of convenors suggested by Mr. Bannerman be adopted.

Carried.

The committees were constituted as follows, to deal with various definite topics:

(1) Scope of a Federation of Canadian Students - Mr. R. G. M. Gammell, convenor; Miss Ringers, Mr. L'Esperance.

(2) Financing the Federation - Mr. H. M. Mollins, convenor; Miss Mauder, Mr. E.B. Wilson, Mr. Andrew.

(3) Organization of the Federation - officers, machinery, method of representation, conferences, etc.; Mr. G. F. Curtis, convenor, Miss Hodges, Mr. LeSage, Mr. L.I. Greene.

(4) International relations of the Federation, if any. Form that such relations should take: Mr. J. Oliver, convenor, Miss MacSporran, Mr. J. McCully, Mr. Gravel.

(5) Scholarships - interprovincial, international, - sending of Canadian Students abroad: - Mr. D.A. Skelton, convenor, Miss L. Scott, Mr. Bagnall, Mr. H. Todd.

The suggestion was made that the convenors meet at noon Wednesday to report on progress.

Moved by Mr. Mollins, seconded by Mr. Curtis that any further discussion be postponed until after the presentation of reports.

Carried.

Conference then adjourned to meet at 9 A.M. Wednesday for committee work.

E.B. Wilson,
Chairman.

Melvin K. Kenny
Secretary.

M I N U T E S.

Thursday, December 30, 1926

MORNING SESSION.

Conference resumed on Thursday at 10.00 A.M., Wednesday being taken up with Committee work.

The minutes of previous sessions were read, and on motion of Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Bagnall, were adopted.

A telegram from the National Student Federation of the United States containing greetings and good wishes was read and filed.

The Report of the Committee on the Scope of a Federation was presented by Mr. Bannerman and on motion of Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Curtis, was adopted.

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by Mr. Mollins. It was suggested that the Report of the Committee on Organization be read also before the Finance Report was discussed, as they were so greatly related.

The Report of the Committee on Organization was presented by Mr. Curtis.

As neither of these reports contained provisions for a permanent or part-time secretary-treasurer of the Federation with remuneration, which the Conference thought advisable, it was moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Gammell, that these two reports be referred back to the Finance and Organization Committees sitting in conjunction, and that further discussion be postponed until they report again.

Carried.

The Report of the Committee on International Relations was presented by Mr. Oliver, and on motion of Mr. Greene, seconded by Mr. Bagnall, was adopted.

The Report of the Committee on Scholarship was presented by Mr. Skelton. Moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Curtis, that the report be adopted in principle, but that action be deferred until the appointment of the pro tem executive, who shall outline the procedure to be adopted by the individual universities concerned.

Carried.

(Adjournment until 3 P.M.)

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference assembled at 3 P.M.

Mr. Curtis presented the revised report of the Organization Committee and Mr. Mollins the revised report of the Finance Committee.

31.

Moved by Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Bagnall, that the report of the Organization Committee be adopted. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Gammell, seconded by Mr. Greene, that the Report of the Finance Committee be adopted. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Oliver, seconded by Miss MacSporran, that the Conference recommend to the student governing bodies of the Universities of Canada the formation of a National Federation of Canadian University Students. Carried.

Moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Gammell, that a committee consisting of the present combined Finance and Organization Committees with Mr. Bannerman added, be appointed to draft a tentative constitution. Carried.

Conference adjourned to meet at 9.30 A.M. Friday.

E.B. Wilson,
Chairman.

Melvin K. Kenny,
Secretary.

M I N U T E S

Friday, December 31st, 1926

Morning Session

Conference reassembled at 9.30 a.m.

The minutes of the previous day's meeting were read and on motion of Mr. Bagnall seconded by Mr. Andrew were adopted.

A communication was read from the Confederation Internationale des Etudiants appointing Mr. MacKenzie their official representative at the Conference. Moved by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Mollins that Mr. MacKenzie's name be added to the list of official delegates and that the letter from the C.I.E. be filed. - Carried.

The tentative constitution as drawn up by the special committee appointed to draft a constitution was read by the Chairman.

Moved by Mr. Curtis, seconded by Mr. Greene, that the draft constitution as presented be submitted to the various constituent student bodies.

There was much discussion on this and many suggestions and amendments were brought forward. Finally, it was moved by Mr. Mollins, seconded by Mr. Skelton that the report as amended be adopted. - Carried.

Moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Mollins that a nominating committee consisting of the Chairman, the Secretary and Mr. Greene, be appointed to draw up a slate. - Carried.

Mr. Wilson reported for the nominating committee as follows:

President - Mr. L.I. Greene of Bishop's College.

Vice-President - Mr. LeSage, University of Montreal.

Secretary-Treasurer - Mr. Percy Davies, University of Alberta.

Moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Curtis that the report be adopted and the above named should be constituted the pro tem executive of the National Federation of Canadian Students. - Carried.

Mr. Greene and Mr. LeSage spoke briefly.

It was suggested by Mr. McCulley that in order to show interest immediately, the pro tem Executive should consider publishing at once a bulletin containing a collection of University activities throughout Canada for distribution to all the Universities.

33.

Moved by Mr. Greene, seconded by Mr. Bagnall, that this conference is desirous of learning of the reception or rejection of the proposed constitution by the constituent Universities before March 1st, 1927. - Carried.

Moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Gammell, that the officers of the Conference turn over to the pro tem executive the business of the proposed Federation as soon as possible.

Carried.

Moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Greene, that the Executive of the Federation be instructed to prepare quarterly a bulletin of the activities of the Canadian University students for distribution. - Carried.

Moved by Mr. McCulley, seconded by Mr. Skelton that this Conference express its very sincere appreciation of the kindness of its hosts, the hard work of Mr. Bannerman and the officers who so ably directed the conference, and of the efforts of any others who have had anything to do with it.

Moved by Mr. Andrews, seconded by Mr. Greene, that Mr. Bannerman be asked to compile a condensed report of the conference for distribution to the leading daily newspapers of the Dominion. - Carried.

Conference then adjourned.

Melvin K. Kenny,

Secretary.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION.THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CANADIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.NAME

This organization shall be known as The National Federation of Canadian University Students. Its short title shall be The N.F.C.U.S.

OBJECT

To promote in every way possible a better understanding among all Students; a greater degree of co-operation between all Canadian Universities for the promotion of national interests and to provide a means for developing international relationships with student groups in other countries.

LANGUAGE

French and English shall be the official languages of the Federation.

MEMBERSHIP

(1) Membership shall be open to the representative student organization of each University in the Dominion of Canada. (A Student Council or similar functioning student body shall be deemed a representative student organization.)

(2) In special cases, subject to the discretion of the Executive Council membership shall be open to representative student organizations within Universities or University colleges not affiliated as a whole.

(3) Every active member of the student body in each University whose representative student organization is a member of the National Federation of Canadian University Students, shall be ipso facto a member of the Federation.

(4) The Executive Council at the Annual meeting shall have power to elect associated members who shall pay no fees, have no vote and shall receive none of the material benefits from the N.F.C.U.S.

ADMINISTRATION:

(5) The Administration of the Federation shall be in the hands of an executive council consisting of one official representative from each member University appointed annually by the constituent organizations, who shall be a member of the constituent organizations,

(6) The Executive Council shall have power to make all arrangements necessary for carrying into effect the aims and objects of the Federation as set forth in the Constitution and shall for this purpose have power to pass the necessary by-laws.

OFFICERS:

The officers of the Federation shall be, the President, the Vice-President and a Secretary-Treasurer.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION (Continued - 2)

(7) The President and the Vice-President shall be elected from among the members and by the members of the Executive Council at the annual meeting. Notwithstanding any clause to the contrary these officers shall be deemed to be members of the Federation until the conclusion of their term of office!

(8) These officers shall hold office from the end of the annual meeting at which they have been elected until the end of the next annual meeting.

(9) The Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by the Executive Council at the annual meeting. He need not be a member of the Executive Council and shall hold office at their pleasure. He shall be during his term of office a member of the Federation.

DUTIES:

(10) The President of the Federation shall preside at the annual meeting of the Executive Council. He shall be responsible together with the Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer for the administration and conduct of all business arising from the annual meeting and such other business as may arise between annual meetings.

(11) The Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for all routine business. He shall keep the books of the Federation, the minutes of the annual meetings and the reports of such committees as may from time to time be set up by the Executive Council. He shall be required to submit a budget for the succeeding year at each annual meeting and an audit of the Federation Finances at the close of each financial year and at such other times as may be required by the Executive Council.

FINANCES:

(12) The annual affiliation fee for the representative student organization of each University entering the Federation shall be twenty-five dollars. This fee shall exempt one hundred students in each University concerned from any per capita levy.

(13) The remainder of the yearly budget shall be made up by a per capita levy upon the constituent organizations for all students who are members of such organizations with the exception of those students provided for in Section 1.

(14) The Federation shall be responsible for the expenses of the official representatives to the annual meeting and for such operating expenses as are required by the constitution.

(15) The budget as passed by the Annual meeting shall be ratified by at least ten of the constituent organizations before the beginning of the financial year.

MEETINGS:

The Executive Council shall meet annually during the Christmas vacation at such place as shall have been decided at the last annual meeting.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION (Continued - 3)

QUORUM

A quorum of the Executive Council shall consist of the official representatives of two thirds of the total number of constituent organizations.

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this constitution shall be passed by the Executive Council at the annual meeting and ratified by at least ten constituent organizations before becoming effective.

BY-LAWS

(1) The Secretary-Treasurer shall prepare the agenda for the annual meeting and shall give all Canadian Universities at least thirty days' notice of such meeting. He shall forward the agenda with the notice of the meeting.

(2) The Financial year of the Federation shall end on March 31st of each year.

(3) The annual affiliation fee shall be paid to the Secretary-Treasurer by all constituent organizations not later than October 31st of each year. All per capita levies shall be paid at the time of the annual meeting.

(4) The travelling expenses of the officers to the Annual meeting shall be paid from general funds.

(5) All constituent organizations shall immediately upon election of their new official representative to the Executive Council, notify the Secretary of the Federation.